

Amendments to Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (cancelled)

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

4. (cancelled)

5. (cancelled)

6. (cancelled)

7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended) A method for minimizing corrosion of metal devices used for assembling pretreated wood constructions, comprising capping the ends of a plurality of wood joists with a membrane barrier and connecting said capped ends to a rim wood joist at a surface of which is covered by a strip of membrane barrier, each of said wood joists and rim wood joists being pretreated with a preservative selected from the group consisting of alkaline copper quat, ammoniacal copper quat, and copper azole; said membrane barrier comprising a carrier support layer and, attached to said carrier support layer, a preformed pressure-sensitive waterproofing adhesive layer operative to seal around metal fasteners driven through said membrane barrier; and

connecting said capped ends and said rim wood joists together by fastening them to metal joist hangers using metal fasteners, said ~~fasteners~~ metal hangers being separated from said wood joists and said rim wood joists by said membrane barriers; in order to prevent contact between said pretreated joists and said metal hangers ~~said membrane barriers operative to seal around metal fasteners driven into the wood through said membrane barriers.~~

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 8 further comprising applying a membrane barrier to the uppermost surfaces of said wood joist and wood rim joist.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 8 wherein said membrane barrier is non-water-absorptive.

11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)

13. (cancelled)

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 8 wherein said metal device and metal fasteners are made of galvanized steel.